

buds from the portions of apple trees which had superior fruit and used them as scions for grafting on more hardy stock. As a result of the third selection (generation) he obtains an apple which has the excellence of flavor of the earlier fruit to which has been added greater vigor and hardiness of the tree and greater uniformity of fruit.

Altogether, the report of the Conference will be very helpful to plant breeders as well as to those who are more particularly interested in the theoretical phases of the subject, and the Horticultural Society is to be congratulated on its excellent appearance.

W. A. CANNON.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1904

The meeting was called to order at the usual hour at the New York Botanical Garden, Professor L. M. Underwood in the chair; twenty members present.

A painting of the Gloriosa Lily (*Methonica superba*) was received through President Brown from Mrs. Annie Eliza Scott Guerritore, of Naples, Italy. On motion a vote of thanks was ordered transmitted to Mrs. Guerritore and the picture was turned over to the Botanical Garden for exhibition purposes.

The following were elected to membership: Miss Mabel Denton of Paterson, N. J.; Mr. C. B. Robinson of New York City, and Dr. G. H. Shull of Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y.

The first paper on the scientific program was entitled "Recent Contributions to our Knowledge of Paleozoic Seed Plants" and was by Edward W. Berry.* It consisted of a brief discussion of recent contributions to our knowledge of those Paleozoic pteridophytes which had formed, or approximated the seed habit, the work of Professors Scott, Oliver, Kidston, Grand' Eury, Zeiller, and Renault. Especial attention was given to the work of Scott and of Oliver and to what amounted to a demonstration by them of seed-bearing in the Cycadofilicean genus *Lyginodendron* (*Sphenopteris*). Discussion by Drs. Britton and MacDougal followed.

* This paper was published in full in *TORREYA* for December, 1904.

C. B. Robinson presented "Remarks on the Flora of Northern Cape Breton." To the north of the Bras d'Or Lakes, the island of Cape Breton consists of hills 800 to 1,500 feet in height, bordered by lowland of no great width along much of both coasts and in the numerous river valleys. The interior of the island is a plateau with large areas covered by barrens and sphagnum bogs. In passing eastward from New Brunswick to Nova Scotia, the flora becomes distinctly poorer, many species dropping out and few new ones appearing. Cape Breton with a smaller area than the rest of the province and forming its northeastern limit shows a further decrease, although a comparatively large number of forms are known from the island that do not occur on the mainland, while others grow more luxuriantly there, even at the extreme north. Among the former may be mentioned *Samolus floribundus* H. B. K., *Peranium Menziesii* (Lindl.) Morong, *Parnassia parviflora* DC., and *Galium kamtschaticum* Steller; among the latter, *Cypripedium reginæ* Walt., *Caltha palustris* L., *Anemone canadensis* L., *Blephariglottis Blephariglottis* (Wild.) Rydb., *Vagnera stellata* (L.) Morong, and *Rubus Chamæmorus* L. The dwarf mistletoe *Razoumofskyia pusilla* (Peck) Kuntze, apparently of wide distribution in northern Nova Scotia, extends at least fifty miles up the west coast of the island.

The ferns are also noteworthy. All the common and a majority of the rarer species of the mainland grow at least as well in Cape Breton, together with two additional species *Dryopteris Filix-mas* (L.) Schott and *Polystichum Lonchitis* (L.) Roth, the former widely distributed, but the latter known only from two widely separated localities. Discussion by Drs. Britton, MacDougal and Barnhart followed.

The third paper by Le Roy Abrams was entitled "Notes on the Flora of Southern California." After speaking briefly of the topography and general climatic conditions of southern California Mr. Abrams called attention to the extreme variation in the flora and exhibited a series of specimens illustrating the coastal and mountain floras. Among these specimens were three of his recently described new species: *Cheiranthus suffrutescens*, *Heuchera elegans* and *Godetia Dudleyana*.

Other especially interesting plants exhibited were *Romneya trichocalyx* Eastw., *Quercus Engelmanni* Greene, and *Calochortus Catalinæ* Wats.

The paper was discussed by Dr. Britton and Mr. Nash.
Adjournment followed.

EDWARD W. BERRY,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

Mr. William R. Maxon of the U. S. National Museum is spending several months in Guatemala, engaged in researches for the Bureau of Plant Industry.

With the January number, *The Plant World* passes under the management and editorship of Professor Francis E. Lloyd, of the Teachers College, Columbia University.

Professor H. Harold Hume, recently of the University of Florida, is now horticulturalist of the State Board of Agriculture of North Carolina, with headquarters at Raleigh.

F. M. Rolfs, lately of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed professor of botany and horticulture in the University of Florida, Lake City, Florida.

Professor F. S. Earle, director of the Estación Central Agronómica de Cuba, spent the last two weeks of December in New York and Philadelphia, sailing for Cuba again on the 31st.

At the December convocation of the University of Chicago, two candidates in botany, Minton Asbury Chrysler and Clifton Durant Howe, received the degree of doctor of philosophy.

The Apterya, a quarterly devoted to natural history, published by the Roger Williams Park Museum of Providence, Rhode Island, C. Abbott Davis, editor, begins its existence with the number for January, 1905.

The daily papers announce the death of Rev. F. D. Kelsey, pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Toledo, Ohio, and formerly professor of botany in Oberlin College, at the age of fifty-six years.